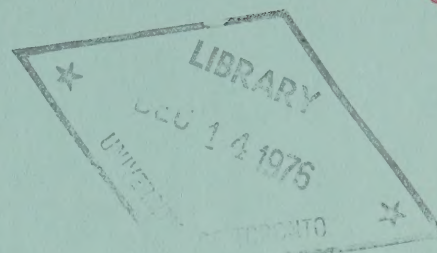


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ONTARIO COUNCIL ON UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS  
OPEN MEETING WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH  
DECEMBER 21, 1974

Government  
Publications



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ONTARIO COUNCIL ON UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS

MINUTES

4-0194

MEETING

OPEN MEETING WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

LOCATION

Queen's Park  
Toronto

DATE AND TIME

December 21, 1974  
9:30 a.m.

4-0195

ATTENDANCE

OCUA MEMBERS

J.S. Dupré

W.E. Bagnall

W. Goyan

J.J. Deutsch

A.L. McCallion

A. D'Iorio

J.F. Mustard

P.D. Fleck

R.P. Riggin

J.D. Fisher

Ronald S. Ritchie

R. Gerstein

H.H. Walker

L. Good

J.R. Yarnell

OCUA STAFF

J.P. Venton  
Executive Secretary

N.E. Simmons  
Associate Secretary

MCU (Observer)

B.A. Wilson  
Assistant Deputy Minister

COU (Observer)

G.G. Clarke  
Secretary





UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH DELEGATION

Mr. W.W. Lasby  
Chairman  
The Board of Governors

Prof. W.C. Winegard  
President

Prof. H.S. Armstrong  
Dean  
Faculty of Graduate Studies

Prof. W.E. Tossell  
Dean of Research

Mr. R.P. Gilmor  
Provost

Mr. A.G. Holmes  
Registrar

Mr. N.M. Sullivan  
Comptroller

Mr. W.A. Brown  
Director of Physical Resources

Prof. N.V. Bowen  
Dept. of Psychology

Mr. D.M. Jamieson  
Research Advisor to the  
Vice-President Administration

Mr. R.D. Lockie  
Research-Assistant to the  
Vice-President Academic

Mr. W.N. Vaughan  
Assistant to the Vice-President  
Academic

Members of the Senate Committee on Academic Priorities

Prof. R. C. Anderson

Prof. D. G. Ingram

Prof. J. F. Bligh

Prof. M. B. Phillips

Mr. T. Bray

Mr. R. Nulsen

Prof. A. K. Colter

Prof. J. W. Tanner

Prof. K. J. Duncan

Prof. J. P. Smith

Mr. T. Hawkins





4-0196

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The President reviewed highlights of the University's brief. Subsequent discussion focused on the following:

4-0197

PROGRAMMES

Guelph's three semester system was discussed at length. It was noted that spring session enrolment had tended to be least stable, and that if enrolment in that session continued to drop additional support would be required to prolong the three semester experiment. The tri-semester system had not been found to be profitable and indeed especially with the spring semester the University had struggled to break even. The delegation agreed to forward a report on the financial implications of the system. Guelph now found that a shift away from three semesters would be very costly and disruptive. One advantage of the arrangement was that many students were able to complete their degree in six or eight straight semesters.

Guelph was sensitive to the need for activities such as non-credit continuing education although the delegation stressed that universities could not be expected to provide such services without financial support. Non-credit continuing education was in great demand in the Guelph area and the University offered a range of fifty-four courses with 2,534 course registrations. Community response to this endeavour was reported to be on the increase.





The delegation described a number of cooperative programmes in which Guelph in conjunction with other universities offered graduate degrees such as a Ph.D. in Philosophy (with McMaster), M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Chemistry (with Waterloo), and graduate work in Physics (with Toronto and Waterloo).

It was reported that students and faculty in Science departments had recently requested the establishment of remedial programmes in English composition. As well, although no formal course existed, the University had a drop-in centre for Mathematics and Chemistry upgrading manned by full-time faculty and post-doctoral fellows. This activity was considered part of faculty teaching assignments.

The delegation described in detail Guelph's Veterinary Medicine programme. OVC was currently graduating 120 students per year as one of three veterinary colleges in Canada. Graduation from Guelph qualified applicants for licensing although a professional body of veterinarians actually governed the licensing of practicing veterinarians.

4-0198

ENROLMENT

In the course of a discussion of enrolment at Guelph the following points were made:

- 1) Spring semester entrants at Guelph originated primarily from the immediate vicinity, Toronto and Hamilton.





- 2) Graduate student enrolment projections were described as being slightly open-ended in order to provide flexibility.
- 3) A Senate Committee on Academic Priorities reviewed all programmes and was responsible for indicating where ceilings on enrolment would be placed.
- 4) A minimum class enrolment rule prevented the mounting of non-core courses with less than five registrations.
- 5) Part-time students at Guelph could gain access to any regular programme; the tapering-off in part-time enrolment indicated in Guelph's projections was not expected to materialize.
- 6) Very few Indians or Eskimos were enrolled at Guelph.

The delegation discussed at length the quality and preparation of entrants. It was felt that universities could no longer assume that entrants would be familiar with fundamental literature and history although their preparation was considered to be broader. An overall deterioration in basic mathematical skills had been detected and concern about levels of literacy had prompted requests for the establishment of remedial programmes. Grade XIII marks were described as seeming inordinately high as a result of different standards of marking.

4-0199 CRITERIA FOR SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPORT

The delegation considered size the most significant criterion for supplementary grants. As well Guelph accepted the concept of special support for northern universities and bilingual programmes. However, the University did not support arguments such as student mix and undergraduate versus graduate





orientation because no conclusive documentary evidence or macro-indicators had been produced on which to base claims of this nature.

A number of macro-indicators which could be used for comparative costs analyses across the Province were suggested including: library costs per FTE student; the cost of the operation of the registrar's office per FTE student; and the per student costs of alumni affairs, promotional activities and development, and information services.

4-0200

OPERATING FINANCE

i) The Budget Process

Internal budgeting at Guelph involved taking an estimate of the teaching load expected in each department and/or college and setting student:faculty ratios for each unit in line with general university revenues. It was noted that despite attempts to regulate student:faculty ratios the overall FTE student:FTE faculty ratio had grown from 12:1 to 1970-71 to 14.1:1 in 1974-75.

ii) Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF)

The delegation described in detail funding provided to the University by OMAF. The OMAF budget covered research, extension work, and other programmes. In the area of research approximately 45% was provided for overhead. Salaries made up approximately 75% of the OMAF budget. The delegation noted that some staff were paid from both MCU and OMAF funds on a proportionate time basis.





iii) Maintenance Problems

The delegation described the exponential increases in space maintenance costs (e.g. utilities). Since 1970-71 costs per gross square foot had increased by 16%. It was noted in passing that Guelph would be unable to meet the costs of maintenance operations were the University to receive its outstanding space entitlement.

iv) Salaries

Salaries at Guelph were reported to have always been slightly behind those offered in the civil service. However, differentials were expected to widen in view of recent hospital and civil service settlements. With regard to the latter it was noted that both Federal and Provincial units of civil servants were present on the Guelph campus, further exacerbating the tensions resulting from salary differentials. The delegation agreed to provide additional details of comparative salaries early in January following finalization of 1975-76 salary increases.

v) 1975-76

The University required \$3,000,000 more than it would receive in 1975-76 to carry out minimum necessary services. As a result, \$1.5 million in budget requests would not be funded and a \$1.5 million operating deficit was to be budgeted. The latter would be recovered from accumulated surpluses. The delegation agreed to forward additional data on the \$1.5 million in budget reductions and reduced purchasing power.





vi) The Effect of Financial Restraint

Although a number of options for accommodating further financial restraint could be identified, all were felt to endanger institutional quality. Capital consumption had already begun in the areas of maintenance, library acquisitions, supplies and equipment, with the latter being considered most serious. Additional options included further faculty and staff reductions.

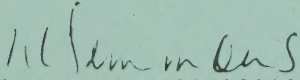
The delegation stressed that universities must be allowed time to change and required a clear enunciation of the Government's goals for Ontario universities.

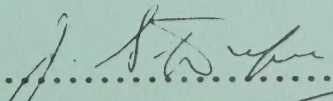
4-0201

CAPITAL FINANCING

The delegation gave priority to cyclic renewal over new building starts. However, as indicated in the brief, in the long term a return to the capital formula might be indicated.

Guelph was facing a difficult situation in the provision of residences for students, 95% of whom originated from out-of-town. As the University was financially unable to enlarge its residence operation, students were heavily dependent on the community for accommodation. In addition, it was noted that increased operating costs were about to raise residence fees significantly.

  
.....  
N.E. Simmons  
Associate Secretary

  
.....  
G.S. Dupré  
Chairman

